

CLAIMS

1. In a communication system including at least a base station for providing
communication services to a number of mobile stations through at least reverse
link signals, a method for determining reverse link communications load level
of said communication system comprising:

receiving said reverse link signals from said number of mobile stations,
wherein each reverse link signal carries at least a pilot channel, a reverse link
rate indicator channel, and a data channel;

for each received reverse link signal:

- a) determining a first signal power ratio of said pilot
channel power level to said received reverse link signal power
level;
- b) determining reverse link rate indicator information
carried by said received reverse link rate indicator channel;
- c) determining, based on said reverse link rate indicator
information, a predetermined ratio of said data channel power
level to said pilot channel power level;
- d) scaling said first signal power ratio by said
predetermined ratio to determine a second signal power ratio of
said data channel over said received reverse link signal power
level;

summing said second signal power ratio for each of said received reverse
link signals to determine said reverse link communication load level of said
communication system.

2. The method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

determining whether to allow communication access to at least one of
said mobile stations based on said reverse link communication load level.

3. The method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

2 determining whether to reduce communication data rate of at least one
of said mobile stations to allow communication access to at least one other of
4 said mobile stations based on said reverse link communication load level.

4. The method as recited in claim 1 further comprising:

2 determining rise level of said reverse link communication based on said
reverse link communication load level.

5. The method as recited in claim 4 further comprising:

2 determining whether to allow communication access to least one of said
mobile stations based on said rise level.

6. The method as recited in claim 5 further comprising:

2 determining whether to reduce communication data rate of at least one
of said mobile stations to allow communication access to at least one other of
4 said mobile stations based on said on said rise level.

7. In a communication system including at least a base station for providing
2 communication services to a number of mobile stations through at least reverse
link signals, an apparatus for determining reverse link communications load
4 level of said communication system comprising:

a receiver for receiving said reverse link signals from said number of
6 mobile stations, wherein each reverse link signal carrying at least a pilot
channel, a reverse link rate indicator channel and a data channel;

8 wherein said receiver includes a control system, a searcher, a finger
element, and a decoder operating for each received reverse link signal to:

10 a) determine a first signal power ratio of said pilot
channel power level over said received reverse link signal power
12 level;

b) determine a reverse link rate indicator information
14 carried by said received reverse link rate indicator channel;

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stations to allow communication access to at least one other of said mobile

4 stations based on said rise level.